



Federal Maritime Commission
800 N. Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20573

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
FEDERAL MARITIME COMM

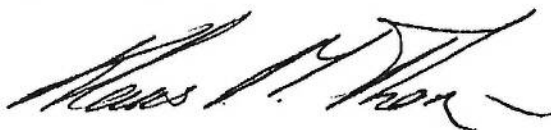
Dear Sir / Madam,

We understand that Cosco Container Lines will be officially moving the registered "controlling entity" of their Transatlantic Services to their European HQ in Hamburg, Germany and as such, they need to petition to FMC for an exemption to the rule that foreign controlled entities can only lower rates on 30 days notice. We understand the new entity will be called Cosco Container Lines Europe GmbH.

The ocean freight market is extremely competitive and Carriers need the capability to react to customer requests for rate adjustments in a timely manner. We have been using Cosco Container Lines for many years and they have shown themselves to be fair, competitive, open to their customers' needs, and always adhering to FMC regulations. If they cannot continue to function in the same capacity and rules under the new entity name, it will make it difficult for companies like ours to continue to work with them on freight rate issues that require fast resolution, i.e. we certainly cannot wait 30 days for a rate to be reduced. It will only hurt U.S. Importers and Exporters alike.

We sincerely hope that the FMC will give consideration to their application for this exemption.

Yours truly,



Klaus M. Thorup

Vice President

Procurement and Carrier Relations